

What is claimed is:

1. An aqueous detergent composition comprising, based on weight of said aqueous detergent composition:

- a) from 0.5 to 5 weight % phosphoric acid or salt thereof;
- 5 b) from 0.25 to 5 weight % organic phosphate surfactant;
- c) from 0.25 to 5 weight % nonionic surfactant having a hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 6 to 18; and
- d) water;

10 wherein said aqueous detergent composition has a pH in the range of from 3 to 11.

2. The aqueous detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said pH is in the range of from 5 to 8.

15 3. The aqueous detergent composition according to claim 2 wherein said pH is in the range of from 6 to 7.

4. The aqueous detergent composition according to claim 1 wherein said nonionic surfactant has a hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 8 to 20 16.

5. The aqueous detergent composition according to claim 4 wherein said nonionic surfactant has a hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 10 to 25 15.

6. The aqueous detergent composition according to claim 1 comprising less than 0.25 weight % alkylphenol ethoxylated surfactant, based on weight of said aqueous detergent composition.

30 7. A method for improving adhesion between a coating and a substrate, comprising the steps of:

a) applying an aqueous detergent composition onto a surface of said substrate, wherein said aqueous detergent composition comprises, based on the weight of said aqueous detergent composition:

- i) from 0.5 to 5 weight % phosphoric acid or salt thereof;
- 5 ii) from 0.25 to 5 weight % organic phosphate surfactant;
- iii) from 0.25 to 5 weight % nonionic surfactant having a hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 6 to 18; and
- iv) water;

wherein said aqueous detergent composition has a pH in the range of from 3
10 to 11;

b) rinsing said surface of said substrate with water to remove said aqueous detergent composition;

c) applying a coating composition to said surface of said substrate; and

d) drying or allowing to dry said coating composition applied onto said surface of
15 said substrate.

8. The method according to claim 7 wherein said substrate is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, galvanized steel, vinyl, polyvinyl chloride, thermoplastic polyolefin, chlorosulfonated polyethylene, pressure treated wood,
20 plywood, EPDM rubber, cementitious surfaces, asphalt, and chalky acrylic coated surfaces.

9. The method according to claim 7 wherein the rinsing comprises a power wash at a pressure of at least $7 \times 10^6 \text{ N/m}^2$.

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10. The method according to claim 7 wherein said pH is in the range of from 5 to 8.

11. The method according to claim 10 wherein said pH is in the range of from 6
30 to 7.

12. The method according to claim 7 wherein said nonionic surfactant has a hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 8 to 16.

13. The method according to claim 12 wherein said nonionic surfactant has a
5 hydrophile-lipophile balance number in the range of from 10 to 15.

14. The method according to claim 7 wherein said aqueous detergent composition comprises less than 0.25 weight % alkylphenol ethoxylated surfactant, based on weight of said aqueous detergent composition.